

PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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CITY UPGRADES DPW FLEET AND IMPLEMENTS NEW PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE MEASURES

Upgrades, New Measures Expected to Result in Better Service and Taxpayer Savings

INDIANAPOLIS – Today Mayor Greg Ballard and Department of Public Works (DPW) Director David Sherman celebrated National Public Works Week by announcing the city's plan to upgrade the department's fleet with new snow and solid waste vehicles.

"The men and women of DPW work hard to provide the best service possible to the residents of our city," said Mayor Ballard. "I made a commitment to them and our citizens to provide the best resources available to help get the job done."

As of the end of April 2009, DPW had an inventory of 529 pieces of rolling stock (cars, vans, trucks, etc.) and 411 pieces of non-rolling stock (plows, trailers, small mowers and miscellaneous other equipment). With 3 shiny new trucks on display, the oldest vehicles have already begun to be replaced and DPW expects to receive 44 additional new Snow and Solid Waste vehicles before October of this year.

The city expects to replace approximately 373 or 70% of the 529 pieces of rolling stock and will replace many pieces of non-rolling stock (snow plows and mowing equipment). Approximately 19 or 90% of the automated Solid Waste fleet and 37 or 42% of the city's snow plow fleet will be replaced by the end of the year. Rolling stock replacements could increase if DPW is approved for various grant opportunities over the next couple of years.

"It is our expectation that with a 5-year vehicle recycling strategy, almost all of the Snow fleet and most of the Solid Waste vehicles will be replaced with newer, better equipment," said DPW Director David Sherman. "This is a major accomplishment for both DPW and city residents as this will allow us to provide you better, faster, more efficient service."

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With the welcome addition of new vehicles into the fleet, DPW also implemented the Vehicle Maintenance Program, an expansion of current maintenance protocols that encompass daily pre- and -post inspections of vehicles specific to the equipment and type of truck.

The Vehicle Maintenance Program allows detailed daily checks of the equipment that will result in better management of resources, longer vehicle life and ultimately increase savings of taxpayer dollars.

“This is just one example of the way that we’ve been examining the way we do things and implementing best practice methods to provide you the best available services with the resources that we have,” said Sherman.

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